

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 4 and 5. In addition, please amend claims 1 and 21.

Sub
B
A7

1. (Amended) A method for screening fabric handle of an array of fabric samples, comprising:

providing an array of at least four fabric samples upon at least one substrate;
causing protrusions of each of said fabric samples through openings in said at least one substrate wherein said protrusions are caused by contacting a probe with said fabric samples using an automated system that moves said probe, said fabric samples, or both relative to each other and wherein said protrusions are caused at a throughput rate no greater than about two minutes per sample; and

monitoring a response of each of said fabric samples to said protrusions for assisting in measuring relative fabric handle for each of said fabric samples.

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21. (Amended) The method of Claim 20, wherein a gap of at least about one millimeter gap exists between said first plate and said second plate.

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed November 6, 2002, the Examiner rejected claims 1-35. By way of the foregoing amendments and the version with markings to show changes attached hereto, Applicants have amended claims 1 and 21. Applicants further address each issue raised by the Office Action below.

I. Specification

The Office Action objected to informalities in the specification. Applicants address each objections as follows.:

a. The Office Action suggested that on page 8, line 18, the term --allows-- be replace with the term --allow--.

b. The Office Action suggested that page 10, line 29 be updated to show correct units. In response, applicants changed "(m" to --mm-- to clarify the units.